



A Pythonic implementation

Physics Analysis Tools Meeting
11 Feb 2004







Scripting Services

- RTAG proposes Python to achieve
 - interoperability between CINT and Python
 - scripting and interactive environment
 - component bus
- Python bindings to standard services and utility libraries currently developed in SEAL
 - PyROOT, PyLCGDict, PyBus, further bindings
- Python as a non-intrusive presence in the architecture







Binding Technologies

- RTAG mandate: investigate and recommend
 - various existing options: SWIG, Boost, SIP, raw Python C-API, ...
 - agreed on Boost and Python C-API
- PyLCGDict acting as
 - quick and general solution
 - bridge technology







- Python access to C++ libraries (for free)
 - automatic Python proxies to C++ classes using SEAL reflection
 - Pro: hassle-free binding generation
 - Con/Pro: less direct control of interface
 - template, namespace representation
 - Vector-like C++ objects support the Python sequence protocol







- Proxies based on information stored in a LCG Dictionary
- Python objects manipulated from C++ via Boost
- First appeared in SEAL 1.0.0, July, C++ based







- Migrates much of functional core from C++ to Python
- Exploits Python's metaclasses, to make for a flexible, simpler representation
- Better support from Python features, e.g.,
 - iterator protocol
 - introspection features
 - e.g., inheritance tree reflects C++ one
- Python proxies creation loosely coupled to underlying reflection system
 - not constrained by LCG dictionary incarnation







PyLCGDict 2 - status

- Undergoing performance tuning
 - but mostly concentrating on features support
- Extensive test suite of >150 tests
 - write test first than make it work
- On SEAL cvs repository since Monday
 - guinea-pig ready

